

THE SLIT SKIRT CRAZE CHANNEL TUNNEL PROJECT

Queen Mary and Her Hostesses

Wife of the King of England Said To Be Very Considerate When She Is a Guest.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, Aug. 9. "THE most considerate lady who ever stayed under the roof of another," is the description which is given of Queen Mary.

When, some time ago, the Queen wished to have a settee removed in the sitting room allotted to her in a mansion where she was stopping she sent for the housekeeper and asked in the most gracious way if she might take such a liberty. The merest trifle in her rooms she would not move without express permission. This consideration she is said to inherit from her mother, the late Duchess of Teck, who was noted for the same feeling.

It is with the utmost hesitancy that the Queen's attendant will approach the still-room maid or the housekeeper for the simplest requirement of her royal mistress, such as a little barley water or home made lemonade, two favorite beverages of the Queen.

A guest who was present at Lady Salisbury's ball, in Arlington street, the other night, says that the three most simply dressed ladies were the Princess Royal and her two daughters. Like Queen Alexandra, the Princess retains perfectly her slender figure, and in her quiet black dress, lightly trimmed with jet, in which her waist was well defined, she might have been her daughter's eldest sister.

It was not until after the death of the Duke of Fife that it was realized how wealthy he was, for he never boasted. The extraordinary simplicity of the attire of the Duchess of Fife, who is now the wealthiest unmarried woman in the Kingdom, and that of her sister, whose dresses were of ordinary white silk, were a subject of much comment. Both girls are beautiful dancers. They know all the new steps and tripped them with considerable zest.

Rude in England to Thank Any One

Intricacies of Good Manners Are Puzzling to the Traveller in the Kingdom.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, Aug. 9. THAT English etiquette is a sore trouble to foreigners is a very old story. That a foreigner may not be acquainted with all the niceties of English etiquette in the ballroom, dining room or theatre is held as no excuse by the British matron as she contemptuously forgets him.

It says much, therefore, for the Continental traveller that he or she is willing to learn. There are now 50 young men and women of seventeen different nationalities attending a holiday course of lectures at the University of London for instruction in English conversation and etiquette.

One German girl, according to Miss Violet Parkinson, one of the instructors of these classes, was greatly surprised when told that she must make the first sign of recognition when meeting a male acquaintance in the street. "She did not think much of English mores to start with. 'I think that most modest,' she said. 'The man always bows first in our country.'"

Nor can these students understand why the English take soup from the middle of the spoon instead of from the end, which is shaped for the purpose. And why should a man take his hat and cane into the drawing room when making a daily call, they ask. They may think it uncomfortable, but the only answer is that it is English etiquette.

After dinner do you thank your hostess? Is another question asked. And the answer is, no; it would be considered very rude in England to thank anybody.

Among the students none is more polite than the Japanese. One man who on leaving a house was accompanied down the stairs by a daughter of the hostess on reaching his hotel wrote the daughter a letter of thanks.

EAST LONDON HAS THE MOSQUITO

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, Aug. 9. FISHERY commuters, whose life in summer is said to be a fitful existence between slaps at mosquitoes, will have a fellow feeling for East London, which is plagued by a visitation from that insect.

Although mosquitoes are not unknown in England, they are comparatively rare and seldom troublesome, owing to the fact that they are largely vegetarians. Their diet for a meat diet is said to be due to the presence of an abundant amount of green stuff which better suits their palates, or bits, which also makes them anemic, and prevents their multiplication. Absence of stagnant water in England also interferes with their breeding.

But the present East London visitation, believed to have been brought in by ships, consists of hardy man eaters and is proving a sad and trial to the inhabitants, who are quite unused to such a pest. Indeed, the Chingford Urban District Council is so impressed by the gravity of the plague that it has called a conference of all the local authorities in the Epping Forest district. It has been decided to cultivate fish in the ponds to destroy the larvae, while the medical officer to the Chingford Council hopefully recommends that breeding on a large scale as a means of attacking mature mosquitoes.

LONDON SEASON, IN THEORY ENDED, SHOWS STRONG SIGNS OF VITALITY

As Usual, It Is the Americans Who Are Making the City Lively.

PREPARATIONS ON WAY FOR ROYAL WEDDING

The Duchess of Fife and Prince Arthur of Connaught to Have Simple Ceremony.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, Aug. 9. THE London season should, by all rules of tradition, have come to a close last week, but with Queen Mary in town so late the season died hard.

A stroll in Piccadilly and Bond street in the last few days gave convincing proof that London is by no means empty. In the conventional sense, as American and Continental travellers have been keeping the shopkeepers busy.

Opinion is very much divided on the subject of the season now ended. There are many who declare they never knew a worse one. On the other hand, there are those who say they have enjoyed it enormously and are satisfied with it in every way.

If the season has had its defects from a social standpoint, it certainly has been most successful so far as concerns the number of travellers in London and the business done by the hotels and tradesmen. Americans, as usual, have constituted the most important element among tourists and will continue to haunt the city for some weeks yet, despite the fact that the season's social events are over. Claridge's reports twenty per cent more tourists this summer than last, including a great number of Americans, while the Ritz, the Piccadilly and the Hyde Park pronounce it the best season since coronation year.

Details of the ceremony to be observed upon the occasion of the marriage in the Chapel Royal, St. James', of the Duchess of Fife to Prince Arthur of Connaught are now being settled. They will follow very closely upon the precedent of the wedding of the present King and Queen in the same chapel. The service will be comparatively simple. One hymn will be selected by the bride elect and sung by members of the choir of the Chapel Royal, strengthened for the occasion by the choristers from Westminster Abbey. The Princess Royal purposes to give her daughter away in person.

There will be an imposing procession from the Queen's residence of the Princess Royal, in Portman square, where the bride



LADY PERCY, FORMERLY LADY HELEN ZAYKA, LENNOX.

Lady Percy, this year, as in others, was the hostess of her father, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, at Goodwood. She is now the prospective Duchess of Northumberland and the mother of an heir presumptive.

will be escorted by the Duke and an escort of the Royal Scots Greys, Prince Arthur's regiment.

There is a prospect that the German Emperor and Empress will decide to be present at the wedding, but no formal notification to this effect has so far been received. The King and Queen of Norway, however, are coming, as are the Crown Prince and Princess of Sweden.

Even more interest, however, is likely to attach to the presence of Prince and Princess Ernest of Brunswick and Luneberg, themselves recently married.

Whether the King and Queen of Spain will swell the list is another point that is not yet settled, but there is every probability that this will be the case.

The King has put his place at Frogmore at the disposal of the royal bride

and bridegroom, and it is probable they will be here for at least a portion of their early married life.

Gossip is busy regarding the Prince of Wales' future residence, and East Sheen Lodge has been selected for the bachelor home of the heir apparent. If the King decides to take this famous place for the Prince the house will revert to its original status as a royal residence. When the late Duke of Fife and the Princess Royal lived there in the eighties it was the centre of royal sociability. King Edward was especially fond of paying calls on the Duke, and East Sheen was the scene at many family reunions in the House of Fife, notably when the present Duchess, Prince Arthur of Connaught's fiancée, was born at the lodge, in 1891.

'Oyez' Men Hold Yearly Contest

Picturesque Competition at Hastings Which is Decided by the Volume of Sound.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, Aug. 9. AT Hastings, where many years ago William the Conqueror fought a fight which the histories tell about, another contest has just taken place—a battle of voices, or the annual town criers' competition, a picturesque event which serves to keep alive the old traditions of Merrie England.

Coney Island amusement proprietors who are looking for satisfactory barkers would do well to consider the claims of the thirty-one iron lunged men who took part. One of the visitors brought with him a voice which he declared would travel seven miles, but he was promptly silenced by the town crier of Hastings, who replied that it was his custom to hold conversations from the west hill with the bye crier, standing in the church steeple nearly nine miles away.

The contest, which was for the championship belt of Great Britain, was decided by three judges, who sat in a tent where they could not see the competitors, but were obliged to decide by sound alone. One by one the criers, decked in all the glory of their great cocked hats, scarlet capes, plush breeches, buckled shoes and yellow stockings, stepped to the platform, rank their bells and declaimed the test sentence—

"Oyez! Oyez! Oyez! Be it known that the Floral pageant on August Bank Holiday is a free feast of joy and beauty for Hastings and St. Leonards visitors."

First prize was awarded to W. H. Argles, of Marlborough, but O. Tucker, a blind man, who had been brought from Wales by a guide, was placed third.

After the official contest each crier stepped forward and delivered something of his own, some of them reciting quaint, half forgotten cries of long ago. One solemn looking wag, after a deplorable start from his bell, thus harangued the crowd—

"To be sold by Messrs. Lloyd George & Co., at the Talking Shop, Westminster, the National Health Insurance Act. Vendors being in bankruptcy, no reasonable offer refused. God Save the King."

One Source of Germany's Wealth.

Throughout Europe the forests have been cleared for the greatest attention for centuries, until to-day they constitute an immense source of the national wealth of many countries, says the Christian Herald. The best developed forests in the world are those of Germany. The public and private forests of Germany are at present valued at \$4,500,000,000. In Austria the state forests comprise 2,000,000 acres. The French government also derives immense wealth from the state forests and controls at present some 1,500,000 acres.

"People of the Girded Loins"

This Is What a London Writer Calls Americans After a Tour with Them.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, Aug. 9. THE People of the Girded Loins is what Mr. J. W. Robertson Scott calls the Americans after going through England and Ireland with the Agricultural Commission from the United States.

"To travel with them," he says in an article in the Daily News and Leader, "is just to have one's mind made up once and for all that there are only two kinds of people—those People of the Girded Loins and the others."

"The recognized way of getting braced is taking something or going somewhere," he continues. "There is also living for a spell with live Americans. They are all that Harley street has to give you put up in a single bottle; they are the Farthest East of the East Coast; they are a spanking for the middle aged. Yes, sir. If you want to be ten years younger or twenty, or to get a new zest for your work; if you want to keep a wholesome distance ahead of your party; if you want to feel in your bones that all sorts of things can be done for the world right now, hitch your wagon to a star of the star spangled banner."

"You will get up—and go to bed—early in the morning; you will also get thinner; you may even grow pale and then pale yellow, and after that you may die of utter exhaustion—but you will have made good at something which on sunny days you felt a stirring inside you to grip and throw. When the end comes you will escape being carried to the cemetery apologetically as one of the not particularly necessary people."

"There are points about the English, the Welsh, the Scottish and the Irish and different people who live on the Continent, but these Americans have some of the best blood of half a dozen races in their veins. Is it any wonder that they can make themselves at home? Is it any wonder that the grass does not grow under their feet?"

His Yearn.

Judge—"Well, Claude," inquired the county clerk, addressing a young negro who had percolated into the office and stood nervously jiggling his hat in both hands, "what can I do for you?"

"Wey-ay, sah, I wants-dat is, if you sensibly please, sah—wants to get a license to practice mat'imony, sah."

Viewpoints.

Judge—"Mrs. Gramercy—When I married you I thought you'd sown your wild oats."

Gramercy—"With all your money, my dear, it would have been a shame not to start another crop."

Pearl Buddhas the New Charms

London Thinks Japanese Ornaments Will Be the Rage for the Autumn Season.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, Aug. 9. THE Pearl Buddha is likely to be the most fashionable charm this autumn. He is to be seen at the Jewellers and Silversmiths' Exhibition at the Agricultural Hall, where only a privileged few may enter, and where the cases of precious exhibits are guarded night and day.

The Buddha originated with the Japanese. Small iron plates engraved with his likeness are thrust between the shell and the oyster. Later, when the fish is taken away, the plate is found overlaid with the pearly substance; the plate is removed and a nucleus of mother of pearl and wax is applied. Then the little pearly looking figure is ready to be mounted.

Pearls are in high favor just now and, perfect specimens being hard to find, prices are high. A dealer pointed out a cluster of Panama pearls, remarking that "there would be little left out of a ten thousand dollar bill for the man who bought them." Close to them were arranged a collection of "freak" pearls, coral pink, and black and golden specimens, hailing principally from Ceylon, and a monster from the South Sea Islands, weighing 89 grains, shaped rather like a Wellington boot, with pink and blue and green and red tints, more like a dark opal than anything else.

The eccentricities of this, however, were easily outclassed by what the dealer described as "probably the biggest freak pearl in the world," the weight of which is 1,700 grains. If it be true that the coloring of pearls depends on the health of the oyster this particular freak must have given the fish responsible for its production a good deal of trouble. It measures about two inches in length and is not unlike a large snail in appearance. Vivid touches of pink appear here and there among dark shades of green and black and blue, and the oyster from whose shell it was taken was found off the coast of Ceylon.

The Courtied Stranger.

Washington Star—"Although I was travelling incognito," mused Plodding Pete, "I was received with marks of distinction too numerous to mention. People of wealth and position vied for my attention."

"What are you doing?" asked Meandering Mike. "Dreaming out loud?"

"No, I'm talking about when I was in Kansas pretending I was a farm hand looking for work."

Choosing the Place.

To wade through pamphlets without end is now his occupation. While searching for the place to spend his two weeks of vacation.

Tunnel Under the Channel Should Show Good Profit

Promoters of All Rail Route Between England and France Say Investment Looks Good for at Least Seven Per Cent on Capital.

PROJECT WOULD REQUIRE SEVEN YEARS

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, Aug. 9. SOME years ago, when an attempt was made by a number of enthusiasts to revive the Channel tunnel project, Baron Emile d'Erlanger, who became chairman of the Channel Tunnel Company in succession to his father, one of the originators of the scheme, told your correspondent that the time was not ripe. Since the abortive attempt to pass a bill through Parliament for its construction the company had been lying low, waiting for an opportune time.

"Now," he said to your correspondent yesterday, "there is no reason why the tunnel should not be proceeded with. The attempt to invade England by means of the tunnel would be mere madness. It would be quite impossible to make use of the tunnel for bringing troops by rail without holding simultaneously a very considerable portion of British territory and railway line to allow the arriving troops to issue from the tunnel and the men to disembark."

"A few guns trained on the entrance to the tunnel would soon play havoc on the first invaders and make the line useless for the new arrivals, let alone the possibility of destroying the tunnel for the time being."

"I will go further, and say that if England were to lose command of the sea for a sufficient time to allow a sea borne invading force to conquer the forts at Dover and the surrounding country, tunnel or no tunnel, England would have no other choice but to accept the terms of the enemy and sign peace. The problem has not changed from the point of view of greater or lesser peril, but it has greatly changed from the point of view of greater or lesser advantage."

"The entente with France means that it can be to the mutual advantage of both countries to transport troops to each other's shores unknown to and unseen by the enemy. The existence of aerial navigation increases the danger to the English fleet within proximity of Continental shores and would especially render most hazardous the transport and disembarkation of a large force destined to aid her allies on the Continent. Consequently it would be greatly to the advantage of Great Britain if these troops could be landed on the Continent by means of a tunnel."

Concerning the financial aspect the Baron said that after a careful examination of all the eventualities and after an exchange of views between experts on both sides of the Channel \$90,000,000 was fixed upon as the extreme cost, including interest during construction, and construction is estimated to occupy seven years.

"But," he continued, "with so large a sum as \$90,000,000 to be raised, of which one-half, \$45,000,000, is assigned to the English part of the work, it would be folly to contemplate raising the whole of the money as soon as Parliament sanctions the scheme. It is our intention, therefore, to create, subject always to such modifications as circumstances may call for, a limited liability company, with a capital of \$20,000,000, to hold all the securities of the Parliamentary Company, which is confined to works under British control."

"When, after three or four years, the \$20,000,000 of share capital has been spent—but all fears of engineering difficulties have been removed—I think it would be comparatively easy to raise by an issue of \$20,000,000 debentures the balance of the money required for the completion of the English portion of the tunnel."

"As to the raising of the capital, I do not think there will be any great difficulty, seeing that we on the British side of the channel are in complete accord with the South Eastern and Chatham and Dover railways. The finance on the French side

is in the hands of Rothschild Frères and the Chemin de Fer du Nord, one of the most prosperous railways in the world. "As to the paying prospects of the tunnel, our estimates are based on records of existing traffic supplied by the railway companies and by data from the Board of Trade."

"More than one port shares in the Channel traffic and would yield Channel passengers to the tunnel. Not only Dover and Folkestone, but Queensborough, and in a less degree Harwich, Newhaven and Southampton would contribute, and on the continental side, between Calais and Boulogne, there would be contributions from Dieppe, Havre, Ostend and Flushing."

"Taken altogether, and allowing a very moderate rate of yearly increase, we may assume that the actual number of persons embarking and disembarking at these ports will be about 2,150,000 in 1920. That does not seem unlikely when complete confidence in the tunnel and a knowledge of its advantages have been arrived at, nor is it too optimistic to believe that the annual number of persons using the tunnel would be one and a quarter millions."

"As for the goods trade, some \$750,000,000 a year passes through the ports I have mentioned. By methods of analysis similar to those employed in estimating the probable number of passengers we believe that a value of \$210,000,000 in imports will be diverted to the tunnel and half that value of exports. The total tonnage of imports and exports would be 1,150,000 tons annually."

"It is calculated that fifty trains a day would carry the estimated traffic. The working expenses are estimated at \$2,000,000 annually, which gives an ample margin."

"So if the gross receipts amount to \$6,750,000 and the working expenses to \$2,000,000, that leaves \$4,750,000 to pay the interest on the twenty millions of debentures and the twenty millions of ordinary capital."

"It would suffice to pay roughly, therefore, seven per cent on the ordinary shares. It is independent of the probably great increase in the traffic as the years go on."

London Full of Poor Statuary

Mr. Somers Clarke Says Albert Memorial Is Only Complete Monument in Metropolis.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, Aug. 9. POOR old London! Somebody is always finding something the matter with it, yet, in spite of its age and its ailments, it still plods along. The latest object of attack is its architecture and statuary.

Mr. Somers Clarke, a former architect to St. Paul's Cathedral, talking before the London Society the other night, described the statue of Lord Byron, in Hyde Park, as "based in behind railings," while the poet himself seemed to be perched alone and forgotten on a damp stone.

The famous Hyde Park Corner, the lecturer said, was a hash of odd corners and chaos evolved out of order. The Wellington Arch on Constitution Hill was six feet lower than it ought to be and had stood unfinished for three-quarters of a century.

"The equestrian statue of Wellington presented another example of the cheap and indifferent way in which we do things. Boehm, the sculptor," Mr. Clarke continued, "told me himself that it had never been his intention that the four figures at the corners of the pedestal should stand detached like mantel ornaments. He had designed wreaths of bronze foliage on the sides of the pedestal linking the whole thing together, but these were cut out and the monument was defaced for all time."

Mr. Clarke declared that the Kensington workhouse was a more imposing building than that part of St. James' Palace where the Lord Chamberlain's office was located. The palace was "a frowsy brown brick wall, with square holes in it," while York House was "a squallid place, and a more doleful could hardly be found in London."

The speaker cited many cases of unfinished monuments, mentioning the memorial to Queen Victoria in Green Park, the Admiralty Arch, the portico of the British Museum, the top of the Home and Colonial Office, the Marble Arch and the arch at Hyde Park Corner.

"The Albert Memorial," said Mr. Clarke, "is the only monument in London on a grand scale that is complete."

GROUSE TIME IS DRAWING CLOSE

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, Aug. 9. THE Twelfth is looming ahead, and though prospects for grouse shooting have not been so bad for many years as they are this year arrangements are now being made by society hosts and hostesses for the great exodus to the Scottish moors for the shooting season.

Men and women alike issue invitations for their "twelfth" parties. Indeed, the growth of the number of women owners or tenants of moors is steadily on the increase. In Perthshire, for instance, there are no fewer than fifty moors owned or rented by women devotees of the sport, and much successful entertaining is carried out by the hostesses during the grouse shooting season.

Women who own shooting preserves in Scotland, from Aberdeen and Caithness to Ayrshire, include the Duchess of Norfolk, the Countess of Southesk, Lady Reay, Lady Menzies, Lady Kincardine, Lady Sophia Montgomery, Lady Marjoribanks of Lees, Lady Dunbar, Lady Gordon Cathcart, the Dowager Lady Ross, and Lady Gertrude Cochrane.

As a result of the Duke of Sutherland's death it is not expected that there will be the usual amount of deer stalking in the famous Sutherland corrie this autumn. Neither the new Duke of Sutherland nor the castle friends, with Mr. Chaplin's guests, are expected to shoot much.

Last of Great Bear Hounds



CAESAR.

Caesar, which belongs to Mr. V. P. Priklavski, is of the famous breed of bear hounds which was well known in Russia as far back as the sixteenth century, at which period they were used for pulling down bears. The race is now, unfortunately, almost extinct; only a very few specimens remaining—some in the Imperial kennels at Gatchina, near St. Petersburg, and others in private kennels belonging to amateur fanciers.